

SNE Post-Conference Workshop
Advancing the Practice of Food Stamp Nutrition Education Evaluation: Art and Science
Some Final Thoughts
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As co-chair of this workshop, it has been gratifying to see such interest and commitment to Food Stamp Nutrition Education evaluation. Thank you for your active participation and for the unique perspectives that you have brought to this workshop – as national and regional agency representatives, social science researchers, evaluation colleagues, and state program coordinators/network directors.

This is an exciting and challenging time. I hope we will take advantage of this opportunity to consider the policy, the research, and the practice – that we draw upon the individual and collective wisdom of what has been shared over the past two days in moving this work forward. All perspectives are important; all are needed.

We, in the CSREES/CES/Land-Grant University System, are committed to this work. We will continue the dialogue, share what we learn in piloting the Community Nutrition Education (CNE) Logic Model, invite input to strengthen the usefulness of this model for planning and evaluation, and continue our multi-agency efforts with FNS and ERS. We also recognize and value the strengths and perspectives at the state and local level and will continue to seek input from those of you who are on the front line.

I hope that through this workshop ideas have been generated, relationships have been developed, and opportunities have been recognized for working together locally in new and distinct ways to advance the evaluation of Food Stamp Nutrition Education.

We need to remember others who were not able to participate in this meeting because of logistical limitations and to share what has happened here with them. The planning committee is working out a way to make this information available electronically. We encourage you to share similarly through your respective listserves, workgroups, and other formal and informal joint activities.

Lastly, I hope we all will continue the dialogue that has occurred here, that we will listen to perspectives different from our own, consider how our respective insights fit with or add to those of others, and find points of convergence to address the very real challenge of conducting meaningful evaluation in a real world setting. This work is too hard for any of us to do alone. It will take us all. Lets enjoy the journey together.

Thank you.